

# HARPSWELL ANCHOR™

JANUARY 2020, VOLUME 22, NO. 7

HAPPY NEW YEAR

## Harpswell's Paid Firefighter Is on Duty



**First Responder** Lifelong resident Meriel Longley fills the Orr's Island Fire truck at Dipper Cove on Orr's Island. (KELLI PARK PHOTO)

BY KELLI PARK

Local firefighter and paramedic Meriel Longley has recently joined the Town of Harpswell in its effort to provide more consistent emergency coverage with a 36-hour per week position. During her time in this position, Longley has made it her mission to use education to connect with individuals while improving the Harpswell community.

"Meriel is a good fit [for this position] because she cares about the job and brings real passion to her work. She has a deep commitment to and investment in Harpswell and looks out for others," said Town of Harpswell Fire Administrator Arthur Howe.

Longley, who grew up in Cundy's Harbor, follows in her father's footsteps with her choice to pursue a career in emergency and medical services. Her father, Dr. Andrew Longley II, was a doctor who often made house calls by boat and was also the Assistant Fire Chief in Cundy's Harbor before he died in 1991. Longley attended Fryeburg Academy and then Norwich University, The Military College of Vermont, before returning to Cundy's Harbor in search of a way to give back to her community. Longley spoke with Cricket Tupper, who was the Captain of Cundy's Harbor Ambulance Service for 23 years, about becoming an

See LONGLEY p. 15

## A Decade Later Stories from the Harpswell Anchor Winter 2010

BY KARA DOUGLAS

In the quiet winter cold, we move through the early days of a new year, a new decade. Looking back through old, archived editions of the Harpswell Anchor, it's possible to get a glimpse of what was unfolding here ten years ago and how those events relate to our lives today.

The lead story in the January 2010 edition of the Anchor, Heroes Come in All Sizes, was written by Robert Anderson. It begins: "On December 15, 2009, five young children from Cundy's Harbor took their usual short cut route through the woods to their homes on Holbrook Street after getting off the school bus. They had crossed this well-worn path countless times in their young lives without incident. But little did they



**A Decade Ago** In 2010 Ema Hawkes, Kaileb Hawkes, Jonathan Brown, Alex Munsey, Patrick Brown, and Clay Munsey assisted their neighbor Earland (Bea) Darling when he fell while cutting a tree limb. (STACEY WELNER PHOTO)

know that on this December afternoon they would encounter a situation which would test their emergency skills, caring and compassion, and promote them into the role of heroes."

See 10 YEARS AGO p. 14

## Clammers Look to the Future

BY SUSAN OLCOTT

Winter on the water is pretty quiet, but until the bays are frozen, shellfish harvesters are digging for clams. It's cold mucky work, but it provides a valuable source of income for Harpswell license-holders. Twenty of the fifty or so harvesters in town are still out there bringing in soft-shell and quahog clams from the flats—guys like Wendell Cressey who have been digging shellfish his whole life. "I grew up around clammers," he said. That was in Freeport, but he has been digging in Harpswell for the past nine years.

but also because the coastline of Harpswell is so vast. "I'll be out digging in the middle of summer and I don't see a single person," says Wendell. In fact,



**Backbreaking** Local clammers find steamers and quahogs to fill their bags on Harpswell's acres of flats. (ROBERT ANDERSON PHOTO)

It's easy to miss seeing these guys at this time of year not only because there are fewer now as the temperatures cool,

Harpswell has the most coastline of any town in Maine – 216 miles in total. That

See CLAMS p. 12

# Restoration Work at Grange Hall

Restoration work including the replacement of deteriorating floor joists and the sill on the north side of the Merriconeag Grange #425 has begun and will continue throughout the winter and spring.

Initial funding came in a grant from the Belvedere Historic Preservation Fund of the Maine Community Foundation; additional support includes a major gift from a long time member who fondly remembers the Grange Friday night dances. These plus additional grants from friends of the Grange bring the total support to almost \$70,000. Coming after the structural repairs will be a new roof coating, painting of the exterior and further attention to exterior trim, doors and the porch entry.

Early in January, the Grange will install a new plaque celebrating its acceptance into the National Register of Historic Places. Its inclusion was based on the building's long history as a community center hosting public, private and civic events. For example, in January, the Grange will host its monthly pancake breakfast on Saturday, January 4 and the Harpswell Aging at Home Lunch with Friends on Thursday, January 9. In addition, the Grange hosts its own bi-monthly Grange meetings on Thursday, January 2 and January 16 at 7pm and welcomes new members.

Merriconeag Grange has also erected a new permanent sign post

which it is sharing with the John Leo Murray Jr. American Legion Post 171 which meets regularly on the third Monday except in January at 7pm. The sign was made possible with funds donated by Legion Post 171 and created by Legion member,

Bob Webber, Webber Signs of Orr's Island, and erected by Grange members, Sam and Chuck Alexander and David Chipman. The signpost will also carry notices of other up-coming special events, meals and programs being held at the Grange. ☺



**Sign of the Times** Merriconeag Grange and Legion Post #171 recently erected a new sign.



## A Boatbuilding Class for Kids

For the third year running The Harpswell Boatbuilders will offer a boatbuilding class for kids.

In 2018 & 2019 we built a beautiful 13'6" row boat. In 2020 we will build a 12' "punt". A work boat that includes a rowing station and is designed to accept a small outboard motor. Our boat will be built using woods native to Maine. Students will learn math skills relative to boatbuilding. They will learn how to use hand tools and a few small hand held power tools. Other seagoing skills will be taught as well. After launching, sea trials, and playing with our creation we will sell the boat. The funds will go to support the Holbrook Community Foundation. [www.holbrookcommunityfoundation.org](http://www.holbrookcommunityfoundation.org)

Kids ages 9-16 (roughly) will meet on Sunday afternoons from 1-3pm. starting January 26th, 2020. We will launch the boat sometime in May. Meeting approximately 16 Sundays, students are welcome every Sunday or as many as they can get to. The cost is \$125 per student. There is some student aid available. A parent or guardian will be required to sign a consent form releasing me, Ann Flannery, from liability.

I look forward to sharing a wonderful experience of building skills in woodworking, cooperation and self-confidence. Contact me at 207-751-9589 or [annieflann@gmail.com](mailto:annieflann@gmail.com) to register. ☺



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# Mitchell Field Ramp & Float Design Proposed

BY DON MISKELL  
*Mitchell Field Committee Member*

With the approval of the Waterfront Vision as an update to the Mitchell Field Master Plan at the March 2016 Town Meeting and subsequent funding, the Town began two simultaneous projects: first, removing the old Navy pier, and second, developing a replacement “pier” structure. The old pier was removed during 2018.

In 2016, the Town contracted with Baker Design Consultants (BDC) to conduct a study of options for a replacement pier. BDC’s final report was given to the Town in March 2017 and is available for review on the Town’s website. The study looked at five options ranging from no replacement structures to a full size fixed-pier supporting commercial and recreational activities.

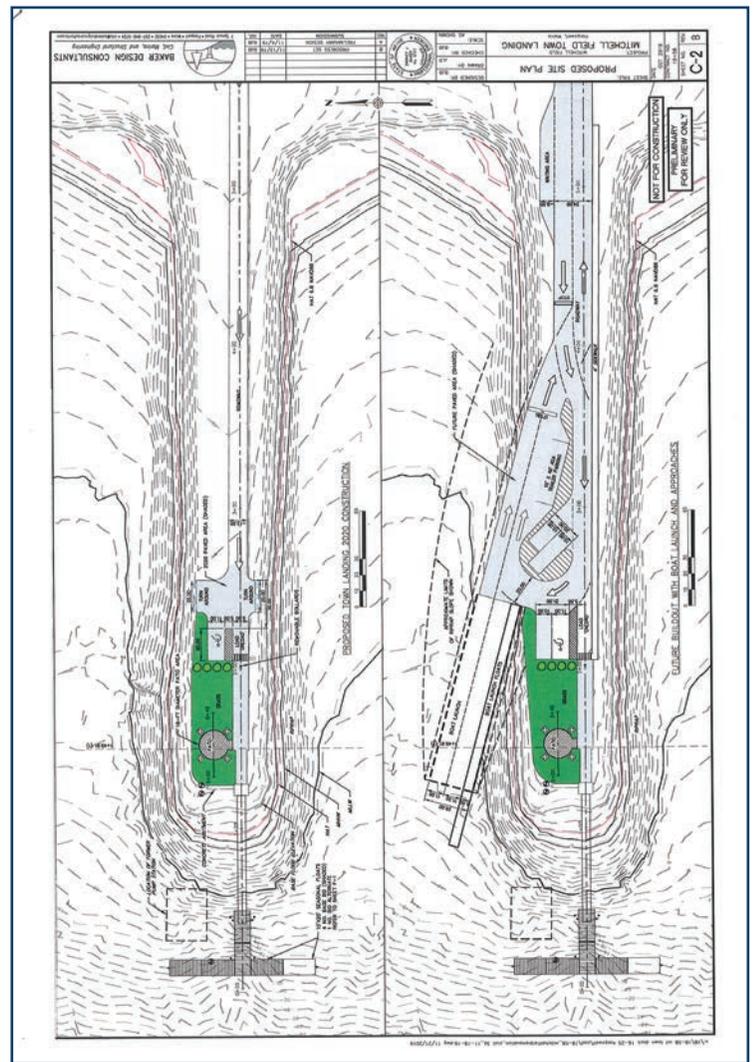
After careful evaluation of the Town’s needs and costs, the Mitchell Field Committee recommended to the Board of Selectmen that the Town move forward with Option 3, a seasonal ramp & float system at the end of the causeway. That proposal was endorsed at the March 2017 town meeting with approval of \$150,000 to be placed in Capital Reserves as matching funds for a Maine DOT Small Harbor Improvement Program (SHIP) grant. The grant was approved in March of 2019 and provides the Town with up to \$160,000 in matching funds for the project.

The town has entered into a contract with BDC, after a competitive bid process, to: develop the final design documents and drawings; apply for the necessary state and Army Corps of Engineer permits, and draft the documents for soliciting bids for the project. The accompanying drawings show the final design and how it will integrate with the proposed boat launch facility.

As of December 2019, the Board of Selectmen has approved the final design and awaits release of matching funds from the state transportation bond issue approved in November 2019. Once the funds are received, the town will solicit bids for the construction. The goal is to have the installation of the permanent pilings completed prior to mid-April when the state cuts off that type of work until November. This will allow the project to be completed during 2020.

The seasonal floats will be removed and the ramp raised for winter storage. Vehicle access on the causeway will be limited to loading and unloading and handicapped access. There will be one handicap parking space provided. All other vehicles must park off the causeway, back on the mainland. Safety is paramount, as pedestrians will still be using the causeway road. A separate pedestrian walkway will be part of the future boat launch facility project.

Check the Mitchell Field web



**Draft** Two proposed designs for boat launch systems at the Mitchell Field causeway. (IMAGE COURTESY MF COMMITTEE)

page for project updates. On a separate note, look for a future article about the Mitchell Field Master Plan Update which will be on the warrant for approval at the March 2020 town meeting. Any questions may be sent to [mitchellfieldinfo@town.harpswell.me.us](mailto:mitchellfieldinfo@town.harpswell.me.us) &

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Date	High				Low				Sun		Moon
	AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft	Rise	Set	
1 Wed	3:15	8.2	3:21	8.5	9:09	1.5	9:39	0.9	7:12	4:16	☾
2 Thu	4:02	8.1	4:13	8.1	10:02	1.6	10:25	1.1	7:12	4:16	☾
3 Fri	4:51	8.1	5:08	7.8	10:56	1.7	11:13	1.4	7:12	4:17	☾
4 Sat	5:40	8.2	6:04	7.7	11:53	1.6			7:12	4:18	☾
5 Sun	6:30	8.4	7:02	7.6	12:04	1.5	12:50	1.4	7:12	4:19	☾
6 Mon	7:20	8.7	7:56	7.8	12:56	1.5	1:44	1.0	7:12	4:20	☾
7 Tue	8:07	9.0	8:46	8.0	1:46	1.4	2:32	0.5	7:12	4:21	☾
8 Wed	8:52	9.5	9:32	8.3	2:33	1.1	3:17	0.1	7:12	4:22	☾
9 Thu	9:36	9.9	10:17	8.6	3:18	0.8	4:01	-0.4	7:12	4:23	☾
10 Fri	10:20	10.3	11:02	8.9	4:03	0.5	4:46	-0.8	7:11	4:24	☾
11 Sat	11:06	10.6	11:47	9.2	4:49	0.2	5:31	-1.1	7:11	4:26	☾
12 Sun	11:53	10.8			5:37	-0.1	6:17	-1.3	7:11	4:27	☾
13 Mon	12:33	9.4	12:41	10.8	6:25	-0.3	7:04	-1.3	7:10	4:28	☾
14 Tue	1:20	9.6	1:32	10.6	7:17	-0.3	7:53	-1.2	7:10	4:29	☾
15 Wed	2:11	9.6	2:26	10.2	8:11	-0.3	8:45	-0.9	7:09	4:30	☾
16 Thu	3:06	9.7	3:26	9.8	9:10	-0.1	9:40	-0.6	7:09	4:31	☾
17 Fri	4:03	9.7	4:29	9.3	10:13	0.0	10:38	-0.2	7:08	4:33	☾
18 Sat	5:02	9.7	5:35	8.9	11:18	0.1	11:38	0.2	7:08	4:34	☾
19 Sun	6:04	9.7	6:43	8.6			12:27	0.0	7:07	4:35	☾
20 Mon	7:06	9.7	7:49	8.5	12:42	0.5	1:34	-0.1	7:06	4:36	☾
21 Tue	8:05	9.8	8:49	8.6	1:45	0.6	2:34	-0.3	7:06	4:38	☾
22 Wed	9:00	9.9	9:42	8.7	2:42	0.6	3:28	-0.5	7:05	4:39	☾
23 Thu	9:50	10.0	10:31	8.8	3:34	0.5	4:17	-0.6	7:04	4:40	☾
24 Fri	10:37	10.0	11:16	8.8	4:22	0.5	5:02	-0.6	7:03	4:42	☾
25 Sat	11:21	9.9	11:57	8.8	5:06	0.5	5:44	-0.5	7:03	4:43	☾
26 Sun			12:02	9.8	5:48	0.5	6:22	-0.3	7:02	4:44	☾
27 Mon	12:36	8.7	12:40	9.6	6:27	0.6	6:59	-0.1	7:01	4:46	☾
28 Tue	1:13	8.6	1:19	9.3	7:07	0.7	7:35	0.1	7:00	4:47	☾
29 Wed	1:51	8.6	1:59	8.9	7:47	0.9	8:12	0.4	6:59	4:48	☾
30 Thu	2:30	8.5	2:41	8.5	8:30	1.1	8:51	0.8	6:58	4:50	☾
31 Fri	3:11	8.4	3:27	8.1	9:16	1.2	9:33	1.1	6:57	4:51	☾

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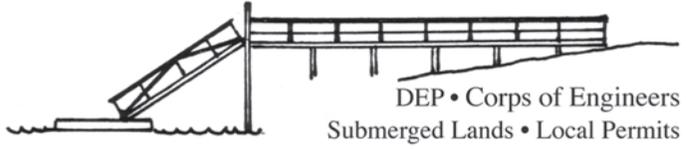
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# Musings with Butch Lawson

## On Traveling and Aging



Recently in the social media swamp there can be found dozens of cheerful posts by folks traveling the world and checking off big, expensive things on their “bucket lists,” to which I say, “Better you than I.” Being a gentleman of a certain age carries with it the memories, wounds, and colorful scars of past travels to distant exotic places, places that are now less distant and way less exotic than when I visited. My reasons for being there in the first place had more to do with doing as I was told than site seeing, relaxing, or sampling the local cuisine. Dragging drunk swabbies out of bars in ports of call requires different relaxation techniques than, say, spending summer afternoons on a beach in the Mediterranean.

These days, I prefer not to travel. Okay, that’s a polite understatement. In reality, to borrow a phrase from my father, I wouldn’t go any farther than my

mailbox if I didn’t have to. (Remind me to tell you about the time our moving company lost Dad in transit from California to Maine and teamed up with FedEx to get him out of New Jersey— a place he never would have chosen to visit— in time for Christmas with his family.) Traveling anywhere out of easy automobile range means dealing with a level of inconvenience and irrationality that could only have been created by committees of weasels and dedicated sociopaths who have never actually seen the inside of an airplane, let alone been herded through the bafflement of today’s travel protocol. Hundreds of thousands of my frequent flyer miles have gone to wherever expired frequent flyer miles go and I don’t mourn the loss.

My home is my nest. It’s warm in the winter, cool for all but one week in the summer, dry, tight and secure. It has my stuff in it and some of the stuff of my ancestors. It won’t ever fall out of the sky or sink; the adult beverages are cheap and I’m not likely to contract some ugly norovirus here. My dogs are here and happy. The folks nearby are quiet for the most part and the live ones are helpful when I’ve done something foolish. Many

thanks to my dear neighbor for expertly employing her nursing skills when I miscalculated something surprisingly stabby. I am very glad that she wasn’t traveling in some far-away place when I needed her, plus while Medicare doesn’t cover the cost of my visit to her kitchen, she does accept payment in smoked salmon. Having her nearby covers emergencies lying somewhere between splinter removal and a 911 call. There’s a lot to be said for making camp within the safety of a close-knit band of family and neighbors such as we have here in Harpswell.

I am quite happy to stay put for now. Going places for the sake of going places does not appeal to me, but there is some pleasure in seeing posts from travelers who do need to see more of the world. Those posts often trigger memories of past visits to such places when the world and I were younger. Now with the use of modern technology I can enjoy the replays, Moxie in hand, from the familiar calm of my recliner. That beats the heck out of a surprise public groping without so much as a “Was it good for you, too?”

So thank you and travel on, pilgrims. I’ll be here by the mailbox if you need me. ☺

# Maine 101: Weather

*The following excerpt is used by permission from the book Maine 101: Everything You Wanted to Know About Maine and Were Going to Ask Anyway, by Nancy Griffin. Copyright 2009 MacIntyre Purcell Publishing, Inc.*

The one word that describes Maine’s weather is “changeable”. Maine’s climate is described by weather experts as a humid continental climate; it can be below zero on a Tuesday morning in winter only to be followed by 58 degrees Wednesday. Weather and temperatures can vary dramatically from region to region too. It might be snowing in the western part of the state but sunny and mild on the coast.

Perhaps that’s why Mainers pay such close attention to weather forecasts and the old time joke is, “If you don’t like the weather, just wait a few minutes.” Maine experiences a wide variety of weather and some of the

antly warm, with highs in the upper 70s or low 80s. Expect sweater weather most summer nights along the coast because the sea breezes there can feel quite cool. Usually the daily high for July averages in the mid 70s, but several days are humid and in the 80s. Once in a while, Maine will feel days in the 90s. Variety is the key when it comes to summer weather because there will also be days in the 60s and an occasional day in the 50s.

Fall brings temperatures that cool down considerably. Fall foliage season starts around the first of October. Frost can hit before the end of the month because temperatures



widest temperature fluctuations in New England.

Spring is affectionately known as mud season by Mainers, and with good cause. As soon as winter lets up enough to unfreeze the ground, dirt roads, driveways and paths become deep with mud. Temperatures range from lows of around 20F all the way up to the low seventies.

Generally, summers are pleas-

average at least ten degrees colder than July. October nights can be just plain cold. By the end of October, the average temperature low is right around freezing.

Winter varies from year to year but it is sure to be snowy and cold somewhere in Maine during some part of the winter. January temperatures range from highs near 30F on the southern coast to overnight lows below 0F in the far north. ☺

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# 1 January 2020 Community Calendar

## January 7, NOON

Lunch with Friends, free and open to all Harpswell residents. Presented weekly by Harpswell Aging at Home at the Bailey Island Union Church, 2141 Harpswell Islands Road, Bailey Island. To volunteer to cook a dish or help set up, call Surrey at 833-0092 or email surreysh@comcast.net.

## January 7, 6:30-8:30PM

Sage Square Dance Open House, Woodside Elementary School, 42 Barrows Dr, Topsham. No prior experience necessary, dress is casual, bring family and friends. Great exercise—good for your body, brain and spirit! FMI call Debbie at 798-3100 or visit <http://sage.squaredanceme.us/>. Please note this event repeats 1/14.

## January 9, 10:30AM

Cundy's Harbor Library Children's Story Hour. 935 Cundy's Harbor Rd. FMI 207-725-1461 or email [assistant@cundysharbor.me](mailto:assistant@cundysharbor.me). Please note this event repeats every Thursday in January (1/16, 1/23, 1/30).

## January 9, NOON

Lunch with Friends, free and open to all Harpswell residents. Presented by Harpswell Aging at Home at the Merriconeag Grange Hall, 529 Harpswell Neck Road, Harpswell. To volunteer to cook a dish or help set up, call Surrey at 833-0092 or email [surreysh@comcast.net](mailto:surreysh@comcast.net).

## January 9, 7PM

Midcoast Youth Theater presents Seussical the Musical, Crooker Theater, Brunswick High School, 116 Maquoit Rd, Brunswick. FMI visit [www.midcoastyouththeater.org](http://www.midcoastyouththeater.org). Tickets are available at the

door and online at <https://mytseussical.brownpapertickets.com>. Please note this event repeats 1/10 at 7pm, 1/11 at 2pm and 7pm, and 1/12 at 2pm.

## January 11, 7:30PM

Concerts for a Cause presents Portland's Tricky Britches to benefit Tedford Housing and Oasis Free Clinics. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door, Students/Children: \$5. Available on December 1st at the church office, Gulf of Maine Books, or online at <https://britches.brownpapertickets.com/>. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Middle St, Brunswick. FMI call Susan Michaud at 207-729-4857.

## January 13, 6:30-7:30PM

Sage Round Dance Open House, Woodside Elementary School, 42 Barrows Dr, Topsham. No prior experience necessary, dress is casual. Partner required. FMI call Debbie at 207-798-3100 or visit <http://sage.squaredanceme.us/>.

## January 14, NOON

Lunch with Friends, free and open to all Harpswell residents. Presented weekly by Harpswell Aging at Home at the Bailey Island Union Church, 2141 Harpswell Islands Road, Bailey Island. To volunteer to cook a dish or help set up, call Surrey at 833-0092 or email [surreysh@comcast.net](mailto:surreysh@comcast.net).

## January 15, 2-3:30PM

Harpswell Invasive Plant Partnership (HIPP) meeting held at Harpswell Heritage Land Trust, 153 Harpswell Neck Rd. Start the New Year right by showing your Harpswell pride: Volunteer ideas to <mailto:coastalcottageslookoutpoint@gmail.com> restore our

native habitats. FMI go to <https://hhltmaine.org/hipp/> or email [hipp.maine@gmail.com](mailto:hipp.maine@gmail.com).

## January 16, 10-11:30AM

Southern Midcoast Forest Playgroup Comes to Harpswell: Join us for a winter story and walk with a fun game of "I spy!"; Little Ponds Preserve, 206 Bethel Point Road, Harpswell. Free. FMI: visit [hhltmaine.org](http://hhltmaine.org), email [outreach@hhltmaine.org](mailto:outreach@hhltmaine.org), or call 207-837-9613.

## January 16, NOON

Lunch with Friends, free and open to all Harpswell residents. Presented by Harpswell Aging at Home at the Cundy's Harbor Community Hall, 837 Cundy's Harbor Road, Harpswell. To volunteer to cook a dish or help set up, call Surrey at 833-0092 or email [surreysh@comcast.net](mailto:surreysh@comcast.net).

## January 18, 10-11:30AM

Harpswell's Winter World: Join us the third Saturday of each month, January through April. Each month we'll visit a different land trust preserve with a naturalist. Location to be announced. Free. FMI: visit [hhltmaine.org](http://hhltmaine.org), email [outreach@hhltmaine.org](mailto:outreach@hhltmaine.org), or call 207-837-9613.

## January 21, NOON

Lunch with Friends, free and open to all Harpswell residents. Presented weekly by Harpswell Aging at Home at the Bailey Island Union Church, 2141 Harpswell Islands Road, Bailey Island. To volunteer to cook a dish or help set up, call Surrey at 833-0092 or email [surreysh@comcast.net](mailto:surreysh@comcast.net).

## January 22, 6-8PM

HBA monthly meeting at the

Town Office meeting room. 263 Mountain Rd, Harpswell. FMI email Dick Moseley at [coastalcottageslookoutpoint@gmail.com](mailto:coastalcottageslookoutpoint@gmail.com).

## January 28, NOON

Lunch with Friends, free and open

to all Harpswell residents. Presented weekly by Harpswell Aging at Home at the Bailey Island Union Church, 2141 Harpswell Islands Road, Bailey Island. To volunteer to cook a dish or help set up, call Surrey at 833-0092 or email [surreysh@comcast.net](mailto:surreysh@comcast.net).

## A Sampling of January Events Around the State

**Jan 5-10:** Children's Festival at Sunday River Resort, Bethel. FMI visit [sundayriver.com](http://sundayriver.com).

**Jan 12:** Bath Antique Show and Sale, Bath Middle School, 6 Old Brunswick Rd, Bath. FMI visit [10times.com](http://10times.com).

**Jan 18:** Welcome to Winter Festival, Edward Payson Park, Portland. FMI visit [winterkids.org/events/welcome-to-winter](http://winterkids.org/events/welcome-to-winter).

**Jan 18:** Caribou Classic Sled Dog Races, Caribou. FMI visit <https://www.raceplace.com/events/62588/caribou-classic-sled-dog-race>.

**Jan 23-24:** Rangely Snowmobile Club Presents the Rangeley Sno-deo, Rangeley.

**Jan 24-26:** 13th Annual Moosehead Lake Togue Ice Fishing Derby. FMI <https://destinationmooseheadlake.com/icefishingderby>.

**Jan 25:** Be Well Fest 2020, 4 Thompson's Point, Suite 103, Portland. FMI visit [eventful.com](http://eventful.com).

**Jan 25-26:** Brownville Sled Dog Races, Brownville. FMI visit <https://mainesleddogclub.com/>.

**Jan 26:** Wine and Oysters Walk, 49 Dartmouth St, Portland. FMI visit [winewiseevents.com](http://winewiseevents.com).

**Jan 26:** 16th Annual Pies on Parade, Rockland. FMI visit [pisonparade.com](http://pisonparade.com).

**Jan 26:** Fat Bike Race, Roberts Farm Preserve Trails, Norway. FMI visit [mainetrailfinder.com](http://mainetrailfinder.com).

**Jan 26-27:** Special Olympics 2020 Winter Games, Sugarloaf. FMI visit <http://somaine.org/>.

**Jan 27-31:** Senior Week at Sunday River for adults 60+. FMI visit [sundayriver.com](http://sundayriver.com).

**Jan 30- Feb 9:** Camden Winterfest, Harbor Park, Camden. FMI visit [camdenwinterfest.com](http://camdenwinterfest.com).

**Jan 31-Feb 2:** 14th Annual Pond Hockey Festival, Haley Pond, Rangeley. FMI call 805-722-9172.



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# Wild Bees in Decline and How We Can Help

BY ELLIE DOUGLAS  
Grade 5, Harpswell Community School

Bees and all pollinators are important to the ecosystem. People don't think of them as heroes but they really are. They keep the environment alive by pollinating. Pollinating is important because it is an essential part of plant reproduction. Plants are important to the whole ecosystem as they are food, homes and protection for all living creatures. Without plants many animals would suffer, die or cease to exist.

Wild bees are in big trouble for they are endangered. Bees are endangered because of global climate change, change in land use, fertilizers, diseases, pests, invasive species and pesticides. All of these are many of the reasons that bees may go extinct. According to the European Food Safety Agency, neonicotinoid insecticides have been proven to be the cause of mass deaths of bees in Europe. As reported in The Oregonian in 2013, in Wilsonville, Oregon an estimated 50,000 bees died due to pesticides sprayed on trees in town. Researchers are investigating how climate change affects flowering dates and the quantity and quality of nectar.

Invasive species are plants

that come from somewhere else, spread rapidly, outcompete native plants and change the environment. Invasive species make it harder for native plants to grow, but the bees depend on native plants to live.

If bees go extinct a lot will go wrong. Many foods such as cherries, apples and tomatoes need pollinators to produce fruits. According to an article published by the University of Vermont in 2017, "Of particular concern, some crops most dependent on pollinators—including pumpkins, watermelons, pears, peaches, plums, apples and blueberries—appeared to have the strongest pollination mismatch, growing in areas with dropping wild bee supply and increasing in pollination demand."

Wild bee decline will also impact our clothes. Cotton is expected become harder to grow.

There are many things we can do to help the bees. There are simple things like having a window box or planting some native flowers around your house. You could also do something bigger like creating a community bee garden or even turn your lawn into a garden. When buying native plants, be sure to ask the nursery whether they've been treated with



**Busy Bee** A local bee enjoys Blue Vervain. (KARA DOUGLAS PHOTO)

any form of insecticides, especially neonicotinoids.

As you can see bees are very important and need help. If we try

to save the bees and if we succeed the world might become a little better and we might live a little longer. ☺

## Some Native Plants in Maine

- Canadian serviceberry
- Chokecherry
- Hawthorne
- American witch hazel
- Common winterberry
- Blueberry
- Viburnum
- Eastern hay-scented fern
- Canada windflower
- Blue iris
- Asters
- Goldenrod
- Swamp milkweed
- Butterfly milkweed
- Blue vervain
- Culver's root
- Wild bleeding heart
- New England violet
- Bee balm

A long list with growing conditions can be found at [wildseed-project.net](http://wildseed-project.net). ☺

*Happy New Year!*

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# A Year in the Life in Harpswell: 2019



**Frozen Seascape** Ice cakes cover the cove at Lookout Point in January 2019. (TOM ALLEN PHOTO)



**Fish Tale** Ralph Merriman of Harpswell shows off a smelt he pulled through the ice in his smelt shack on the Androscoggin River in Brunswick. (ROBERT ANDERSON PHOTO)



**Spruce Up** David Chipman and Donna Frisoli of HCTV prepare the town's TV station on Community Drive for a fresh coat of paint and a generator which will provide power to the antenna during outages. (KELLI PARK PHOTO)



**Released** Harpswell based Marine Mammals of Maine has been busy rescuing and caring for seals afflicted by an outbreak of Phocine distemper. (SUSAN OLCOTT PHOTO)



**Overflow** Rising tides will eventually threaten the Long Point Cove causeway with inundation. (PHOTO COURTESY AMANDA AND SAMANTHA PALMA)



**Play Ball** The action is competitive, fast and exciting at Harpswell Recreation games at Trufant-Summer-ton Field on Great Island. (ROBERT ANDERSON PHOTO)



**Stirring the Pot** Fourth graders Will Agius and Morgandy Crawford stir the pot to get ready for Harpswell Community School's annual community fundraiser: The Chili & Chowdah Challenge - which is to be held Friday, March 22 this year.. (HCS PHOTO)



**Decades** Members of Harpswell recycling display the banner celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Harpswell Recycling Center. (left to right) Greg King, Philip Conner, Chuck Perow, Theresa Racine, George Barker, John Warner. (Not pictured Staff) Donnette Goodenow. (Not pictured Recycling Committee) David Chipman, Jeffery Stann, Jack Stokinger, Bob Eaton. (ROBERT ANDERSON PHOTO)



**Shore Patrol** Steve Welsh, Todd McGee (Cumberland County Sheriff's Office) and Harbormaster Paul Plummer at Lookout Point. (KELLI PARK PHOTO)

# A Year in the Life in Harpswell: 2019



**Hooked** Participants of all ages are welcome at the Bailey Island Fishing Tournament. (BIFT PHOTO)



**Sold!** The 26th Orr's and Bailey Islands Fire Department Yard Sale and Auction was a success on Aug. 10 and 11. (PAM BERRY PHOTO)



**Sweet Cider** Traditional activities abound at the 2019 Harpswell Day in Harpswell Center. Come rain or shine. (ROBERT ANDERSON PHOTO)



**On Your Mark** Boats race for the finish line at the Lobster Boat Races. (KELLI PARK PHOTO)



**Flyers** Many Harpswell residents are giving monarchs a helping hand this season. (SUSAN CARLSONPHOTO)



**Standing By** Harpswell Neck resident Ron Gagne, Rescue Member Gordon Bowersock, Fire Chief Dave Mercier, Firefighter Parker Bradbury, and Firefighter Noah Bradbury wait for crews to clear fallen trees from Route 123. (ROBERT ANDERSON PHOTO)



**Pot Luck** Lobsterman Guy Baker and his daughter Emelia of Bailey Island. (ROBERT ANDERSON PHOTO)



**Graduates** Jim Jones, Sharon Jones, Gerald Stilphen, Loma Stilphen, and Ruth Perry plan class reunions for those who attended Harpswell's village schoolhouses. (KELLI PARK PHOTO)



**In the Harbor** Cundy's Harbor's fishing fleet remains on moorings after the October 17 storm which created high seas and swells offshore. (ROBERT ANDERSON PHOTO)

## Now through mid-April is the Time to Eliminate Browntail Caterpillars

*Helpful tips from State of Maine Entomologists*

Entomologists from the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry are reminding everyone that now is the best time to remove browntail caterpillars from trees. Browntail caterpillars cause a poison ivy-like rash and they are impacting a broad swath of Maine. Contact with this caterpillar's hairs can cause severe reactions for some individuals.

Browntail caterpillars spend the winter webbed in silken wrapped leaves on the tips of hardwood branches, especially oak and fruit trees. Now through mid-April is when to look for the bright white silk tying a few leaves to the tips of oak and fruit tree branches.

If you see a web, clip it out and destroy it by dropping it in a bucket of soapy water and soaking it overnight; do not leave it on the ground. The caterpillars become active as soon as warmer weather arrives, so do this task as soon as possible. It is also important to clip webs before mid-April because of the increased risk of toxic hair exposure.

Browntail caterpillar webs are found in Maine from the New Hampshire border to Deer Isle, and inland to Raymond, Turner, Rome, Smithfield, Burnham and

Eddington. The moths have been seen as far west to Kingfield, north to Ashland and east to Topsfield, on the New Brunswick border.

For more than 100 years, Maine people have known that "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," when it comes to browntail moths. Learn how to recognize browntail moth webs by visiting the websites below, then go and check your trees for their presence. If you find them and can reach them, clip and destroy them. If they are out of reach, now is the time to call and schedule professional help.

Survey a public space in your town: If you think you have found webs, but are not sure, contact the Maine Forest Service for help. Additional advice may be obtained from your nearest Cooperative Extension office or Soil & Water Conservation District.

Background information: A video showing how to clip the webs, a list of arborists who can prune webs out of your reach and a list of licensed pesticide applicators can be found at [https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/invasive\\_threats/browntail\\_moth\\_info.htm](https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/invasive_threats/browntail_moth_info.htm).

For More Information: Call 211 (or 1-866-811-5695) or text your zip code to 898-211. ☞

# Coming Together for Climate Action

BY SEN. BROWNIE CARSON, HARPSWELL; REP. MATTIE DAUGHTRY, BRUNSWICK; REP. JAY MCCREIGHT, HARPSWELL; AND REP. RALPH TUCKER, BRUNSWICK

Climate change poses a dire threat to our future: There is now more carbon pollution in our atmosphere than at any other point in human history. That carbon is being absorbed into our skies and seas, leading to major climate impacts here in Maine and across the country. Maine is already feeling the negative effects of climate change, and we are dedicated to doing all we can to address this crisis.

On Dec. 6, led by students at Bowdoin College, our communities came together to call for stronger action in the fight against climate change. As your representatives in Augusta, we are grateful for these students' leadership and for the commitment our towns have shown to responding to the climate crisis.

As the Gulf of Maine continues to warm at an alarming rate, climate change threatens our lobster population with warmer tem-

peratures and more acidic waters. Warmer seawater combines with melting ice sheets and glaciers to create deadly sea level rise. According to the Natural Resources Council of Maine, a one-meter sea level rise would submerge at least 20,000 acres of coastal real estate in Maine; a six-meter rise would submerge 128,000 acres.

To slow and mitigate climate change, this spring the Legislature voted to create the Maine Climate Council, an idea that came to us from Gov. Janet Mills. The council has ambitious goals, and is working to reduce greenhouse gas pollution by 80% and transition Maine to using 100% renewable energy by 2050.

Along with the Maine Climate Council, the Legislature approved several laws this past session that will help the council achieve its goals. We supported a new law to encourage more solar power projects, making it easier for small and medium-sized groups to convert to solar power. We also updated Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard, requiring that more of Maine's electricity come from renewable sources, including solar and wind.

Now is the time for action. All

of us must do our part to address climate change and adapt to the changes and impacts already taking place. At every level of government and in every community, we must act thoughtfully and quickly. For our part, we commit to working with our colleagues in the Legislature to enact policies that will make Maine carbon-neutral as soon as possible. Maine must continue to lead the nation through the bold and immediate action that this critical moment requires. ☞

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# Cundy's Harbor Library's Children's Story Hour Wants a New Name

For as long as anyone can remember, children have enjoyed the Cundy's Harbor Library's Thursday Story Hour. So long, that those children of yore now bring their children. While there has never been a lack of kinetic energy during Story Hour, there now seem to be even more vibrations in the Harbor room on Thursday mornings.

Story time has morphed, thanks to parents who are looking for a place to unplug and engage their youngsters. Although parents may worry that their children might not be ready to concentrate on a story, they need not worry any longer.

Our trusty volunteer, Charlene Boulais, describes a typical Thursday morning this way: "Yes, we might read a book or 6 during story time, but we also play with trains, discuss building bridges, why curves need to be different sizes or shapes, the importance of safety stops—you get the idea. And we do jigsaw puzzles in all sizes and shapes, from wooden first step puzzles with 6 pieces to 75-piece floor puzzles. We do sing-alongs and dance along music activities. We use binoculars to

spy on the harbor—spotting eagles resting on our tree and lobstermen coming and going in their boats, while we talk about harbors and rivers and inlets and islands and the creatures and natural habitat of each. We draw and color and build Lego towers and talk about why one tower stands tall, while another falls over and how to build in more strength and support. Then, in comes our Librarian-Adventurer, Dave Perrier, to do some magic with his hundreds of magnets or to share a nature show on his invention—our TV screen fireplace—where animals and sea creatures emerge and we all try to identify them. Story Time is not just sitting quietly to listen to an adult reading, but a movable feast of discovery."

Given all that, we feel a name change is in order. So far, we have many options, "CH L'il Explorers" or "CHL Kids' Discovery Time" are just two ideas. We would love to hear your idea for a fun and descriptive name to replace "Story Hour". Ask your child for ideas! Send suggestions to [assistant@cundysharbor.me](mailto:assistant@cundysharbor.me). Thank you and we hope to see you at the library soon. ☺



**More than Books** Ellie and Nick Miller with Librarian Dave Perrier, examining circuit boards during this week's Story Hour in the Library's Harbor Room. (RACHEL MILLER PHOTO)

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# Clams

From page 1

includes 27 different coves. Add to that the limited times of day when harvesters can get out onto the flats as dictated by the tides and it is easy to see why they aren't always visible.

While this industry may operate under the radar, particularly in the winter months, it doesn't mean that its economic impact is insignificant. Last year, Harpswell ranked 29th in the state for soft-shell clam landings. Those landings were valued at \$250,000. That's revenue that comes from a local resource that is managed locally, as all shellfish are in Maine. It's an important responsibility for each town's shellfish committee.

In Harpswell, the Marine Resource Committee (MRC) is in charge of the Municipal Shellfish Conservation Program. The MRC works with the town's Conservation Commission along with the town Selectmen. As stated on their website, their mission is to provide "conservation of shellfish in a manner consistent with the production of a reasonable yield to shellfish harvesters." That's not a simple task – particularly for a group of volunteers.

Like most MRC's, Harpswell's Committee is made up of a combination shellfish harvesters along with two citizens, a representative from the Conservation Commission and the town Harbormaster. Wendell joined the committee three or four months ago after attending meetings for years. Harpswell's MRC meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5 pm at the Town Office. All meetings are open to the public.

At this time of year, one of them are tackling one of their biggest duties – to review the recent surveys of the clam flats in order to set the number of licenses that will be available in 2020. So, how do they do that? First, they have to get the data. Surveying 27 coves' worth of flats from Middle Bay to the New Meadows River each year isn't practical or possible. So, Harpswell conducts surveys on a three-year rotation. That means that next summer they will survey areas last surveyed in 2017, for example. Surveys are done by Cumberland County Sheriff Marine Patrol Officers Deputy Steve Welsh and Deputy Todd McGee along with Harbormaster Paul Plummer. Even surveying a selected area is a lot of work. For every 100 feet of growing area, they measure each clam in two 1-square foot

plots. Some of the coves can take up to seven hours if you include launching the airboat, surveying, clean up, refueling and putting away. Even the smallest cove takes 3-4 hours," says Plummer. "The airboat has helped tremendously in accomplishing the surveys," he adds. "We've been able to survey more of the area and identify other species further in the intertidal such as quahog and oyster beds." Plummer also creates a map of the plots that then allows him to compare data with surveys from previous years.

In the big picture, the resource is doing well. After a major downturn due to predation by green crabs in 2015-16, the populations have slowly recovered. "Our soft shell population is holding steady," says Plummer. "But, it's still at a pretty low density," he added. Quahog populations are doing better, however. They have thicker shells than soft-shell clams and can better survive the crunching action of the green crabs. That's good for harvesters, particularly in the winter when the quahog price is highest and the shallowest areas where soft-shell clams are get iced over. "It's an important source of income for fishermen in the winter," says Cressey.

The amount of quahogs harvested more than doubled between 2016 and 2018 according to reports from the DMR. "We're focusing our efforts more on quahogs at

the moment," says Plummer. "They seem to be more resilient to the warming waters and current predators." To that end, the MRC is requesting funding from the town to purchase an upweller to grow out quahog seed to a size where they can plant it in the mud in areas that currently have low densities of quahogs.

One of the biggest concerns of late is the milky ribbon worm that literally sucks the life out of shellfish. They are pernicious predators that seem to have replaced green crabs as the big threat to shellfish. Unlike green crabs, which can be trapped, no one has yet to discover a way to remove milky ribbon worms. These pinkish-white worms that can be a foot long break apart when you handle them so that you now have not only one predator, but two or three or even more. "Years ago, we dug worms as part of conservation work, but it was like beating up against a wall. We weren't accomplishing anything. We even wondered if we increased the problem by disturbing the mud," says Cressey. "Worms are native to Maine and natural things come in cycles, so we could see them cycle back out," he adds hopefully.

The committee is also working on improving water quality in areas currently closed for digging. The culvert at Doughty Cove was replaced several years ago and since then the water quality on the other side of the marsh has not been

good. It has been closed during the summer months, impacting a large area that could be valuable for harvesters. "It would be a massive project," says Cressey, "It's something we'd like to get help from the state to work on."

There is certainly a lot to take into account when managing the resource. The next step for the MRC will be to review the survey results and vote the number of new licenses that will be available in 2020. Those are split in a variety of categories including resident, non-resident, Senior and student licenses. Then, they'll coordinate with the area biologist from the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) to see if their recommendations are consistent. That number then goes to the Board of Selectmen by the first business day in March and they set the lottery for new licenses. As stated in the MRC's mission, the goal is to conserve the resource at the same time as continuing to offer ample economic opportunity to harvesters in Harpswell so that guys like Wendell can keep digging and providing fresh local seafood from our coast. ♪



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**BRIEFLYS**

**Fit and Fun for FREE at People Plus in January**

If you made a New Year's resolution to "pick up the pace" of your personal fitness, or try a new activity, why not come to People Plus and start something new at no cost? Try any one (or more) of our offerings during January for Free! Executive Director Stacy Frizzle explains, "this is more about getting new folks into new experiences," she said, "we're confident if they try it, they'll like it!" The Center routinely offers more than a dozen fitness classes each week, varying from Table Tennis (free all the time!) to Tai Chi. All of our instructor led courses are available to members for a cost of only \$5 a session. And the Center has over a dozen clubs that meet regularly to write, play a game, converse in a different language and more!

"The goal is to get folks engaged," Frizzle explained, "This offer is for new attendees to try classes/clubs and see if they like it. We're confident they will. There is no better investment than the one we all make in our own personal health. What a way to start the New Year!"

This offer is free and open to the public. Call the Center at 729-0757 if you have questions or want to sign up or visit [www.peopleplusmaine.org](http://www.peopleplusmaine.org) for a full list of activities.

**Heating Tips**

Here are some ways to keep your home warm while saving energy this winter:

**Do a Double Take With Your Windows** – Replace single-pane windows with double- or tri- ple-pane windows. The air, or in some cases gas, in between the window panes acts as extra insu- lation.

**Don't Shy Away From Shades** – Covering windows with the right shades and draperies prevents warm air from escaping. Keep shades on south-facing windows open during the day to let in sun- light, but close draperies at night to reduce chill.

**Embrace Thermostat Change** – Lowering a thermostat while you are away or asleep can also lower your utility bills. The lower the temperature is inside a house, the slower the heat loss. A program- mable thermostat may be just the trick!

**Keep Your Leaks Sealed** – Check for air leaks around the house, particularly coming from fireplace dampers, electrical out- lets, or gaps around pipes and wires. You can tell if there's an air leak around your windows by holding up a flame and seeing if it blows horizontally. Also, if you can see daylight around a door or window frame, then there is an air leak.

**Stay Out of Hot Water** – Ac- cording to the U.S. Department of

Energy, most households usually only need water heater thermo- stats to be set at 120°F, but some manufacturers automatically set them at 140°F. If it's set that high, you could burn up your bill with an extra \$400 a year in heat loss- es... and scald your hands.

**Spin Those Ceiling Fans** 'Round – It's not as crazy as it seems: turning on your ceiling fan in the winter can provide some cool savings! Reverse the direction so that it spins clockwise, and it needs to move at the lowest speed. This helps redistribute hot air that naturally rises to the ceiling and blows it back down.

**Book Discussion at CML**

The Mid Coast New Mainers Group and Curtis Memorial Li- brary invite you to join a book dis- cussion on *The Middle of Every- where: The World's Refugees Come to Our Town* by Mary Pipher.

Through personal stories told from her view as a friend, teach- er, and therapist, Piper provides insight into the many challenges faced by refugee families, the di- versity of their experiences, and their successes and struggles. While published in 2002 and fo- cused on the influx of immigrants to a Nebraskan town, similarities can be seen between the stories told in this book and the con- temporary migrations being seen in parts of Maine. Join us to discuss the impact that new neighbors

from around the world can have on a community and the rich- ness that authentic exchanges can provide. How will the current in- fluxes of new neighbors affect our world views and our future to- gether? How can Pipher's stories help us to empathize with new Maine residents and their cho- sen communities? What can our communities learn from the resili- ence of our newest members? We look forward to lively discussions about the challenges and wealth of a diverse community and hope to gain a deeper understanding of the power of open minds and wel- coming hearts.

The conversation will take place in the Morrell Meeting Room at Curtis Memorial Library on January 30th at 6:00 PM. Please register to reserve your spot by calling: 207 725 5242 #2 or email- ing [refdesk@curtislibrary.com](mailto:refdesk@curtislibrary.com). Copies of the book are available at Curtis Memorial Library and throughout the library system.

**Storm Window Volunteers Needed**

Habitat for Humanity needs addi- tional volunteers to help with our interior storm window production. It involves working a few hours ev- ery week (or less). Training provided! Also, someone to check on incoming orders while our coordinator takes some time off over the winter months.

**Other Volunteer Opportunities**

If storm window production is not your thing, HFH/7RM needs all kinds of volunteers: Help in the ReStore Fundraising and Events New Home Construction after the in Boothbay Harbor Weatherizing & Repair

Please contact Mike Connelly at [mikec@habitat7rivers.org](mailto:mikec@habitat7rivers.org) or call 207-504-9332. ☺

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## 10 Years Ago

From page 1

The article goes on to name Patrick Brown and Jonathan Brown, Alex Munsey and Clay Munsey and Ema Hawkes and Kaileb Hawkes as the five young rescuers of 79-year-old neighbor Earland "Bee" Darling, who fell from a ladder while cutting firewood.

Dividing into two groups, three of the kids ran home to call 911 while three stayed with Mr. Darling until Cundy's Harbor Fire and Rescue arrived, transporting him to Maine Medical Center in Portland where he received treatment for his injuries.

As written in 2010: "I'm just so grateful to the kids, community, and fire and rescue department for their help," says Darling. "It's so reassuring to know that our (Harpowell) friends and neighbors are looking out for us all."

Mr. Darling went on to recover from his injuries and live for ten more years. He passed away recently at the age of 89. His obituary, published in the Brunswick Times Record reads, "Earland 'Bee' Darling went on his next

truck ride on December 14, 2019. Bee figured he'd ridden all the dirt road he could around here."

A memorial picnic will be held in his honor this summer, with details to be announced. Donations can be made to Midcoast Humane or Cundy's Harbor Fire and Rescue.

On the front page for the month of February 2010 was a story written by Tom Allen, Cundy's Harbor Fisherman Appointed to Federal Advisory Committee. Terry Alexander, whose family has a long history of fishing in Harpswell, had been appointed to the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC), one of three commercial fishermen on the federal board.

Alexander is a proponent of sound science, such as obtaining accurate groundfish stock survey data, to back up fishing regulations. As quoted by Allen in 2010, "We need to preserve the stocks because we plan on being here for a while," says Alexander. "The fishermen are the biggest conservationists you've seen. We're all for conservation — within reason. Our whole thing is National Marine Fisheries Service is not allowing us to catch enough of the fish

to keep the business going."

"My grandfather was one of the first to go dragging. He had fifteen kids. He had a lot of boys that had a lot of boys that fished. I'm the only one left. I'm the only grandson left that actually goes dragging," Alexander says. "Our town was founded on fishing. There's a lot of history that goes away as people move away from the industry."

Speaking at the time about his appointment and what he hoped his influence on the committee would be, Alexander was quoted as saying, "If we had decent science, everyone would have a lot more fish, and we wouldn't need to consolidate like we are. That is the whole key to everything, and that's why I'm on the MAFAC committee, because I hope I can push them towards funding all these new surveys that need to be funded."

A decade later Patrick Keliher, Commissioner of Maine's Department of Marine Resources, named Alexander as the recipient of the 2019 Andy Mays Award of Excellence. An Anchor article written by Susan Olcott in April 2019 states, "The award is presented each March at the Maine Fisher-

men's Forum banquet in Rockland, Maine to a fisherman who has worked to ensure a sustainable future for Maine's commercial fisheries."

Alexander started working full-time as a deckhand on a trawler at age 16 and was a captain by the time he was 22. In the 1980s, according to Olcott's article, he worked with scientists from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center in Woods Hole to reduce by-catch of juvenile groundfish in the Gulf of Maine shrimp fishery. He continues serving on several advisory committees, participating in Gulf of Maine cod trawl surveys and is involved in efforts to revive the Acadian redfish fishery. In addition, Alexander represents the New England Fisheries Management Council on the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team. "Whale entanglement in the lobster fishery is a thorny issue," wrote Olcott, "but he is dedicated to participating."

"I'm not afraid to disagree with people," he noted. "You have to be able to talk to people to be in these discussions and know you're not going to agree about everything."

Commissioner Keliher rec-

ognized Alexander for "being reasonable and rational in his participation in management discussions."

In other news from the winter of 2010, public discussions had begun that would eventually lead to the closure of the West Harpswell School and development of the consolidated Harpswell Community School, the last remaining elementary school in town. The Town was making preparations to oppose a proposed FEMA flood plan, an issue that continues to be an important topic ten years later as we attempt to come to terms with the impacts of global climate change on the Gulf of Maine. Public hearings were being held to consider best practices for waterfront development and shoreline access. The Carrying Place Assembly was working to renegotiate a boundary dispute between Brunswick and the northern tip of Harpswell Neck.

Stories like these and many more are available to readers with an online subscription to the Harpswell Anchor. To learn more, visit our website, [www.harpowellanchor.com](http://www.harpowellanchor.com). See how recent history evolves and sometimes, repeats. ☺



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## Harpowell Boatbuilders

*A boat building class for youth.*

*Building a 12' punt for row and motor*

**Instructor:** Ann Flannery—40 years building, repairing wooden boats—plus her volunteer assistants.

**Where:** In my wood shop in Cundy's Harbor.

**When:** Sundays 1–3 pm. Starts 1/26/20.

**Why:** Learn skills, cooperation, self-confidence...have fun!

**Who:** Local youth ages 9-16.

**Required:** Signed release form from parent or legal guardian.

**Cost:** \$125 for approx. 16 classes.

*Upon completion skiff will be auctioned or sold to benefit the Holbrook Community Foundation*  
[www.holbrookcommunityfoundation.org](http://www.holbrookcommunityfoundation.org)

Contact Ann: 207-751-9589 or [annieflann@gmail.com](mailto:annieflann@gmail.com)

# Longley

From page 1

Emergency Medical Technician and soon enrolled in EMT classes at SMCC. Over the next few years, Longley completed the training for an Advanced EMT and then pursued her next goal: to become a paramedic. “I worked a couple different places after I became a paramedic. . . As time went on, I realized it wasn’t such a scary thought to be a firefighter. So I decided to become a firefighter,” said Longley.

Longley spends the majority of her time at Orr’s & Bailey Island Fire Department, where her responsibilities include cleaning, checking, and maintaining equipment. The position was designed with the goal of having two firefighters - one on staff and one per diem - providing coverage everyday from 6 am - 6 pm with quick and easy access to the fire apparatus, which is a fire truck with fire suppression capabilities. Longley spends much of her time creating, organizing, and streamlining protocols and procedures to make working on fire prevention as safe as possible, and regularly visits

other fire departments in Harpswell to ensure smooth operations.

Although routine equipment maintenance is part of her daily duties, Longley’s goals for her position go above and beyond the nuts and bolts of fire prevention. “One of my goals is to use technology where we can to make things easier and overcome our manpower issue,” said Longley. She looks for new ways to implement technology to improve efficiency, including a new digital platform called I Am Responding, which helps coordinate emergency response services with mapping abilities and online burn permits. Longley has also worked on a project to implement Pulse Point at public places throughout Harpswell; Pulse Point is an app that identifies the locations of AED devices, which are used in the event of cardiac arrest. Longley has also been working to improve signage for the locations of dry hydrants, which are used to mark water sources (local ponds) for fire trucks since Harpswell hydrants do not connect to a common water supply.

“The best part about working in Harpswell is getting to know everybody. . .I definitely have a history here, so that helps me

make connections to people,” said Longley, who develops community outreach opportunities in between maintaining equipment and streamlining procedures. In October, Longley collaborated with Harpswell Harbors & Marine Resources to host the Marine Flare Take-Back, in which 439 flares were collected (the oldest of which expired in 1991). “The Flare Take-Back may not seem like a big deal to anyone, but the idea is to remove that hazard from people’s homes. . .I totally understand that people dispose of them in many ways, I’m just trying to give them another option,” said Longley.

Longley incorporates elements of education for all ages into her work, whether she’s having lunch with Harpswell Community School students or tutoring future firefighters. “We wanted to intro-

duce students to us as firefighters, so they could get to know us and so they’re not scared if they see us during a fire or an emergency. We have people in different amounts of gear so they could see how we look,” said Longley. Harpswell firefighters host open-house events at the fire departments and mini-courses at Harpswell Community School, and are also involved with tutoring and mentoring future firefighters with hands-on experience and training.

“Part of my goal is to recruit and get more young people involved so we can create a successful department into the future,” said Longley. There are eight individuals from within the community who are studying, testing, and volunteering with the fire department to gain professional experience in the field. Three of those individu-

als are young men from Harpswell who are currently in the process of testing and training; Longley affectionately refers to them as The Three Musketeers. “We’re really trying to make sure that anyone going through the educational part is successful,” said Longley.

“There’s lots of room for growth in Harpswell. There really is. There’s a lot of potential to succeed. It’s a great thing to work on,” said Longley. ☺

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# Home Repairs Program

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**For information on eligibility, call the Harpswell Town Office at (207) 833-5771.**



**Let's Get Physical** The Harpswell Neck Physical Education Association (HNPEA) is in the midst of raising funds to replace the aging public tennis courts located at Harpswell Center. A great big thank you to all who helped to meet the generous match offered by a Harpswell resident. The local businesses and individuals who offered material and support for our raffle are held in particular regard. We have some distance to go with fund raising but thanks to all of you we are hoping to get going on the tennis courts this coming summer. As we enter a new year we look forward to providing the people of Harpswell with a quality recreation experience and to offering local children a safe and educational summer camp program. FMI or to donate, please contact hnpea@gmail.com.

**“A Good Read”**

Send your Good Read photo to news@harpswellanchor.com



**A Mt. Fuji Good Read** Lisa and Matt Maurer recently enjoyed a “Good Read” while visiting the Ryoanji-ji Temple in Kyoto, Japan while visiting a son, Matt who lives and works in Tokyo, Japan.



**HARPSWELL WATERFRONT** – Enjoy captivating water views, sun and moon rises from this beautiful oceanside Contemporary Cape privately sited on 9 acres with 350' of water frontage and private dock system. Features of this home and property include: gourmet kitchen, expansive living room, first-floor master bedroom suite, waterside hot tub room, second floor guest bedrooms and baths with great room, 10' ceilings, wrap around porches, oceanside stone patio, attached 3-car garage, and much more!!! \$1,475,000



**HARPSWELL WATERFRONT** – Uniquely sited Cape with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. House is oriented toward Quabog Bay offering protected waterfront and deep water. Sit on the deck which is very close to the water's edge. Water views from living room, kitchen, dining room and master bedroom. Two car garage under. Cathedral ceiling living room opens onto waterfront deck. New furnace in 2018. Good rental history. Private waterfront with open ocean views. \$699,000



**ORR'S ISLAND** – Centered on Orr's Island, this 1845 Cape sits on 2.5 acres with gentle terrain, stone walls and nice setback from the road. There are 3 bedrooms, living room, dining room, 1 bath, attached shed. There is plenty of space on this lot for a barn, garage or garden. Old stone foundation with basement area under main house. Easy walk to Lowell's Cove. Ready for the owner who wants to restore an antique Cape. \$275,000



**WESTPORT ISLAND WATERFRONT** – Perfect deep water Maine retreat. This 1984 log home enjoys dramatic elevated water views of the Sheepscot River. Well maintained 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with attached 2 car garage, large 2 level water view deck and covered porch area. The deep water dock, ramp and float is easily accessed by gravel driveway located on the parcel. Square footage includes a separate heated 2 story finished studio with bath. Additional 2.4 acre waterfront building lot included. \$550,000



**ORR'S ISLAND** – This 3 bedroom, 3 bath home is situated on a 1 acre wooded lot that includes several variety of fruit trees, garden space and a 16X20 outbuilding w/water, electrical. This home offers many updates including a new addition built in 1993. The details are amazing and the views overlooking the wooded lot is serene. The original part of this home has a spacious living room w/Burnford Fireplace, updated windows and is ready for your personal preferences. \$375,000



**HARPSWELL WATERFRONT** – Unique opportunity for south and west facing waterfront building site. Potential for dock. Level building site. Seller has updated 3 bedroom septic design and DOT driveway entrance permit for the site. Centrally located, convenient to both downtown Brunswick and Cook's Coener. Fabulous waterfront building site. \$495,000

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